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Powell Ranger District  
**Bridge Fire**  
**FACT SHEET**

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JUL 30 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners

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**UPDATE:** July 30, 2007

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 25, 2007    **CAUSE:** Lightning    **CONTAINMENT:** 0%

**LOCATION:** This 5,225 acre fire is located in the Bridge Creek drainage. The fire is on the Clearwater National Forest two miles north of the Elk Summit Guard Station and approximately 14 air miles southeast of the Powell Ranger Station.

**Bridge Fire Status:** On Sunday, fire activity was extreme with crown runs several hundred acres in size and spotting. Winds on the fire were up to 20 mph out of the west/southwest. Similar to Saturday, a smoke plume 20,000+ ft. developed over the fire. Due to extreme fire behavior and the fire's remote location, no personnel have been working on the fireline. Fire personnel and lookouts are monitoring fire activity from safe locations. On Monday, fire personnel expect fire behavior to again be extreme due to continued warm, dry weather. The fire continues to move east/northeast into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Fire activity is in line with the long-term management plan for the fire and has not yet breached any management action points. The fire is burning in the Big Sand drainage, south of Rabbit Creek, west of Colt Killed Creek and east of the Elk Summit Road.

**AREA CLOSURES:** There is an area closure around the Bridge and Hidden Fires. It extends north to the Beaver Ridge Road #369 and includes the Elk Summit Road. Area closure maps are posted at campgrounds and trailheads on the Powell Ranger District. The public is asked to please refrain from entering this area. For further information about details of the area closure, contact the Powell Ranger Station at 208-942-3113.

**Hidden Wildland Fire Use (WFO) Status:** The Hidden Fire also exhibited extreme fire behavior on Sunday creating its own smoke plume. The fire has grown to 1,275 acres and has joined with the Bridge Fire for a combined acreage of 6,500.

**RESOURCES:** A Type III Incident Commander, Tony Petrilli, is assigned to manage the fire with the Powell Ranger District. The Powell District Initial Attack crew is assisting with the fire.

**WEATHER:** Monday will be warm and dry with highs between 91-97 in the valleys and relative humidity 18-28%. Winds will be variable with less than 7 mph at lower elevations and out of the northeast at 5-10 mph on ridge tops, switching to northwest 5-15 mph in the afternoon. Temperature in the fire area will be between 72-82.

**INFORMATION:** For more detailed fire information, log onto [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) or the Clearwater National Forest website, [www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater) or call the Powell Ranger Station at 208-942-3113.